GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2532
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2007
SANCHI STUPA
Barman Shri Ranen

Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a)whether Government is aware that Sanchi Stupa has developed cracks and water is seeping from many places;

(b)if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that existence of Stupa is in danger as a result of continuous water seepage; and

(d) if so, the steps taken by Government to save the 'Sanchi Stupa' ?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND CULTURE (SMT. AMBIKA SONI)

(a) to (d) No cracks have developed in Sanchi Stupa. During the extensive conservation carried out during the years 1912 to 1919, about 200 weep holes were provided to drain out percolated rainwater. Seepage through the weep holes is a normal process and part of conservation measure to relieve water pressure inside the structure.

Further, water tightening of the stupa was carried out during 2005-06 and 2006-07 which included grouting, recess pointing. There is no danger to the structural stability of the stupa.